Japanese Tsunami Marine Debris

## JIID RESPONSE





## Response DETAILS:

Date Reported: December 14, 2012

Debris: Large Cement Dock

Identification #: 9LH548 (Dock bumper)

Estimated
Time at Sea:

1.8 years (647 days)

Japanese Tsunami
Debris Confirmation:

Yes

Debris Confirmation:

Washington State Location:

Size: 19.8 x 5.8 x 2.3 m (188 tons)

Sample

Collection: OSU, ONP, & WDFW

Beach Removal: ONP & OCNMS

Number Japanese Coastal Species:

Estimated 63+

Olympic National Park

## Summary:

First sighted off the Washington coast on December 14, 2012, the dock was subsequently found by the U.S. Coast Guard grounded in the Olympic National Park (ONP)/Olympic Coast Nat. Marine Sanctuary (OCNMS) on December 18. Due to remote location, high surf, tides, and short daylight hours, a response team from ONP, WDFW, and Oregon State University (OSU) were only able to access the dock on December 21 to assess the situation, attach a tracking beacon, and collect specimens for invasive risk. The team estimated that 75% of the dock surface biota had already been scoured off by shoreline wave/beach action. Follow-up visits on January 3-4, 2013, were conducted by ONP and WDFW to eliminate remaining invasive species risks. The team estimated that 99% of the surface biota had now been scoured off. After 647 days at sea, sample analysis has identified 63 Japanese coastal species off this dock to date. An ID number on a black vertical dock bumper was used to confirmed the dock as one of the four washed away from the Japanese city of Misawa by the 2011 tsunami. Removal of the dock was completed in March at a cost of \$628,000. A full report is available at <a href="http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/tsunamidebris/">http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/tsunamidebris/</a>.